

Extension Notes

Family and Consumer Sciences

THERESA G HOWARD
Harlan County Extension Office

Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association

The Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association (KEHA) is a volunteer organization that works to improve the quality of life for families and communities service and education. The organization was developed in cooperation with the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. Across the state, County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences work closely with KEHA members and clubs to provide educational programming and coordinate community activities.

KEHA Highlights through History:

- *1914 – First Extension Home Demonstration agents employed and first Home Demonstration clubs organized.
- *1925 – First county homemakers' organizations established.
- *1977 – A Barren County Homemaker teamed with a University of Kentucky physician to establish the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund.
- *1960 – The KEHA presented a needlepoint tapestry to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The tapestry remains on display near the Capitol Rotunda.
- *1985 – Launched the Family Community Leadership Program to provide advanced leadership training for members.
- *2007-2008 – Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of KEHA and the 75th Annual State Meeting.
- *Today membership totals more than 17,000.
- *Programs educate members and general public about topics including:

Parenting and grand parenting	Time management
Fall prevention	Couponing
Diabetes	Ovarian cancer
Energy use in the home	Decision-making
Art Appreciation	Empowering women
Material health issues	Effective leadership

*Members annually report more than 600,000 volunteer hours with a value of more than \$10 million dollars to the Commonwealth.

*Donations through KEHA to the University of Kentucky Ovarian Cancer Research Fund surpassed the \$1 million mark in 2009 and average more than \$50,000 annually.

*The KEHA international program is providing support for the Kentucky Academy, a kindergarten in Adjeikrom, Ghana.

Learn more about KEHA online at <http://www.keha.org>.

Harlan County currently has 12 homemakers clubs. They are: Book Club, Cooking Club; Evarts Club, Liggett Club, Loyall Club, Pine Mountain Club, Poorfork Club, Material Girls Quilting Club, Nifty

Needle's Quilting Club, Scrapmakers Club, Rosspoint Club and Wallins Club. These clubs meet monthly. Some meet in their communities and others meet at the Harlan Co. Extension Depot.

Our County Homemakers President is Pat McClung. Other county officers include: Judy Lewis, Vice President, Nancy Mills, Secretary, and Mary Lynn Pace, Treasurer.

We offer educational lessons like "Quilt Trail" (which will be taught on Friday, February 25th at 10:30 a.m. at the Depot). Also we have lots of different workshops like Rag Bottom Stool (March 11th); Card-Making (March 1st) and Gourd Painting Workshops (March 17th – 19th)

If you are interested in more information on homemakers clubs and their activities, call us at 573-4464 or email me, Theresa Howard at tghoward@uky.edu.